



**STAFF REPORT**  
Board Meeting of April 24, 2024

**AGENDA ITEM:** 5-C

**PREPARED BY:** Patricia Taylor, Executive Director

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**SUBJECT:**

CalVans Legislative Day Recap

**Enclosure:** No

**Action:** Information and Discussion Only

**SUMMARY:**

CalVans Legislative Day was held on April 11<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento. Commissioner Poythress is the current Vice Chair and represents the MCTC on the CalVans Board. Attending this year from MCTC was Commissioner Poythress and Director Taylor.

**Background:**

*Who is CalVans:* CalVans is a joint powers public transit agency that supplies volunteer drivers with vanpools to drive themselves and others to work and school – a majority of serve low-income farmworkers.

*How do CalVans vanpools work?* CalVans pays for the gas, maintenance, repairs, and insurance. Riders only pay a small fare for their ride.

*What benefits does CalVan provide?* CalVans helps:

- Reduce unsafe vehicle conditions and rider fee abuse that is common in farm working communities
- Reduce transportation costs for riders
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and criteria pollutants in the communities it serves

**Advocacy:**

*Transitioning to ZEVs:*

- Since CalVans was created, the vanpools have led to a reduction in over 1 billion vehicle miles traveled. The Advanced Clean Fleet (ACF) Regulations, which require CalVans to phase ZEVs into its fleet by 10% by 2025 and 100% by 2035, will allow CalVans to increase its positive impact on the environment.

- While CalVans is excited about increasing its impact, the challenge they have is that there is no commercially available ZEV that meets the needs of the communities it serves. CalVans will have to purchase cargo ZEVs and retrofit them to carry passengers before it can road-test them. Not only is this very costly, but it is also risky – if the vehicles are ultimately not suitable for off-road use. It can result in CalVans no longer being able to provide services.

*Advocacy Ask:*

CalVans understands it is a tough budget year; CalVans is statutorily required to start making this transition and wants to be a part of the solution. Given this, CalVans is seeking state funding in the budget or Climate Bond Measure to help the communities it serves. If CalVans is unable to secure funding, CalVans risks excluding priority communities from the transition to clean technologies and therefore, a healthier environment.

CalVans Lobby Day included the following meetings:

- Office of Senator Anna Caballero, 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District
- Office of Senator John Laird, 17<sup>th</sup> Senate District
- Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia, 36<sup>th</sup> District
- Office of Senator Monique Limon, 19<sup>th</sup> District

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

No fiscal impact to the approved 2023-24 Overall Work Program and Budget.